

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Angelo J. Gaz on 03/25/2011.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 17 and 41:

On line 1, the term "A system for producing a graphical user interface" has been changed to —A processing system for producing a graphical user interface—

Claims 25 and 45:

On line 1, the term "A computer readable medium" has been changed to —A machine-readable storage medium—

Claims 28, 30 and 31:

On line 1, the term "The computer readable medium of claim 25" has been changed to —A machine-readable storage medium of claim 25—

Claims 1, 4, 6-7, 9, 12, 14-15, 17, 20, 22-23, 25, 28, 30-31 and 33-55 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent claims 1, 9, 17, 25, 37, 41, 45, when considered as a whole, are allowable over the prior arts of record. The prior arts of record do not teach or suggest the combination of means, arranged and interacted to perform the step/means for producing a graphical user interface of an application program.

Specially, Burnard et al. teach created by a multi-layered type computer program, the graphic file containing a list of control objects, wherein each control object is in at least one layer (column 9, line 25 through column 10, line 20, "an application framework for a user interface might provide a set of pre-defined GUI objects which create windows, scroll bars, menus, etc. and provide the support and "default" behavior for these graphic interface objects"...these applications frameworks include a set of standard objects which create windows, scroll bars, menus, etc, each with its own pre-defined behavior...", the multi-layer type computer program includes scroll bars (1st layer), menus (2nd layer), windows (3rd layer), dictates at least one attribute of a control element and is editable by a user (column 10, lines 20-45), and is independently editable relative to a different control object (column 10, lines 1-30, "system level services which developers can modify or override to create customized solutions, thereby avoiding the awkward procedural calls necessary with the prior art application frameworks programs. For example, consider a display framework which could provide the foundation for creating

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and manipulating windows and UI objects displayed within the windows to display information generated by an application program...the framework supplies a set of predefined objects and a mechanism to modify these objects and create new ones”;

creating an application program other than the multi-layered type computer program to access the graphic file and to display a control element from the graphic file on the graphical user interface (column 11, lines 30-65 “the UI objects which generate the screen displays can be created in advance by the use of special constructor” program. The constructor program is itself object-oriented and extensible so that it can create and edit both existing UI objects and UI objects created by a program developer. UI objects created or edited with the constructor program are stored in an archive file and can be retrieved at runtime to generate the appropriate screen displays”) and column 27, lines 15-55, “);

the control element having at least one attribute dictated by one of the control objects in the at least one layer of the graphic file (column 12, lines 1-50, “in order to create a new UI object which is compatible with the constructor program....the TInspector and TObjectView base classes and TGraphiculator helper class must be subclassed with the member functions overridden so that the new object can be edited. However, the new object must also have a new escort class created. This new escort class is created by subclassing the base escort classes provided in the constructor program”);

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However, none of the references teach the step of each of a plurality of the control objects being in a different layer, wherein each layer, when presented on a user interface used to create or edit the graphics file, appears as a series of transparent overlays of the layers on the user interface, and wherein each layer contains an image of the user interface of the application program.

With such limitations, the Examiner deems this application in condition for allowance over the prior arts made of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mylinh Tran. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thu from 7:00AM to 3:00PM at 571-272-4141.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo, can be reached at 571-272-4847.

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

571-273-8300

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mylinh Tran

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/Weilun Lo/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2179